

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An anti-clogging showerhead device, comprising:
a head having spray holes defined therein;

a water pipe defining therein a continuous water pathway with an upstream portion and a downstream portion;

said head attached to said water pipe such that said spray holes are at said downstream portion of said water pathway;

[[a]] an air pathway defining valve positioned at said water pipe along said water pathway upstream of said spray holes in said head;

said valve ~~defining an air pathway~~ communicating with said water pathway;

wherein when water through said spray holes is turned off, air is drawn through said valve and said air pathway into said head above said spray holes to enable said head to drain more completely.

2. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is positioned along a water pipe connected to said showerhead.

3. (currently amended) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said head is connected to said water pipe through an add-on tubing section between said head and said water pipe;

said air pathway defining valve ~~defining said air pathway~~ is positioned in said add-on tubing section.

4. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is positioned in said showerhead.

5. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is comprised of a permanently open hole in a water pipe connected to said showerhead, said hole is angled for being generally parallel to said spray holes when said showerhead is in a position for showering.

6. (currently amended) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway defining valve is an automatic valve having a closed and open position, and is constructed to be automatically responsive to pressure levels in said water pathway;

wherein said automatic valve is automatically closed when said water is turned on, and automatically opened when said water is turned off.

7. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is comprised of a manual valve.

8. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is comprised of a rotatable sleeve around a tube, a first hole in said sleeve, and a second hole in said tube, wherein said sleeve is rotatable to misalign said first hole and said second hole to prevent water leakage when said water is turned on, and rotatable to align said first hole and said second hole for admitting air into said showerhead.

9. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is comprised of a hole in a water control valve along a water pipe for

connecting to said showerhead, said water control valve comprising a shaft positioned through said water pipe, said hole is connected with said water pipe when said shaft is moved to a first position, and disconnected from said water pipe when said shaft is moved to a second position.

10. (currently amended) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway defining valve comprises a resilient membrane positioned along said water pathway so as to be moved by said water into said air pathway when said water is turned on, and automatically retracted from said air pathway when said water is turned off.

11. (currently amended) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is defined as an air pathway hole ~~a hole~~;

said valve includes a resilient tapered tubular sleeve adjacent said ~~[[hole]]~~ air pathway hole;

a larger end of said sleeve is positioned toward said upstream portion and a constricted end of said sleeve is positioned toward said downstream portion,

said resilient sleeve is positioned so as to be subject to pressure levels in said water pathway;

wherein when said water is turned off and said pressure level subsides, said sleeve is automatically retracted away from said air pathway hole, and when said water is turned on and said pressure level rises, said sleeve is automatically pushed against said air pathway hole by said water to seal said air pathway hole.

12. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is comprised of a hole in a ball adapter of said showerhead, wherein when a head connected to said ball adapter is tilted to a first positioning for showering, said hole is covered by said head, and when said head is tilted to a second position after showering, said hole is uncovered for admitting air into said showerhead.

13. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is comprised of a ball valve which is automatically closed when said water is turned on, and automatically opened when said water is turned off.

14. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 1, wherein said air pathway is comprised of a hole for being positioned in said water pathway, and a spring flap with an upstream portion attached to a ring for being positioned within said water pathway, and a downstream portion positioned adjacent said hole, wherein when water is turned on, said flap is moved to cover said hole, and when water is turned off, said flap is automatically moved away from said hole.

15. (currently amended) An anti-clogging showerhead device, comprising:

a head having spray holes defined therein;

a water pipe defining therein a continuous water pathway with an upstream portion and a downstream portion;

said head attached to said water pipe such that said spray holes are at said downstream portion of said water pathway;

an add-on tubing interconnecting said head and said water pipe and including an upper end for connecting to said water pipe, and a lower end for connecting to said head;

a one-way automatic air pathway defining valve positioned in said tubing along said water pathway upstream of said spray holes in said head;

said automatic air pathway defining valve ~~defining an air pathway~~ communicating with said water pathway;

and said automatic valve is water pressure responsive, and arranged to automatically open when water is turned off for admitting air through said air pathway into said head for draining said head more completely, and to automatically close when said water is turned on to prevent water leakage from said valve.

16. (currently amended) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 15, wherein said air pathway is defined as ~~a hole~~ an air pathway hole;

said automatic air pathway defining valve comprises a resilient membrane which is moved by said water against said air pathway hole when said water is turned on, and which is automatically retracted from said air pathway hole when said water is turned off.

17. (currently amended) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 15, wherein said air pathway is defined as ~~a hole~~ an air pathway hole in said tubing,

said automatic air pathway defining valve comprises a resilient tapered tubular sleeve within said tubing,

said sleeve has a larger end and a constricted end;

said larger end of said sleeve is positioned toward said upstream portion and said constricted end of said sleeve is positioned toward said downstream portion;

wherein when said water is turned off, said sleeve is automatically retracted away from said air pathway hole for admitting air through said air pathway hole, and when said water is turned on, said sleeve is automatically pushed against said air pathway hole by said water to seal said air pathway hole.

18. (withdrawn) The anti-clogging showerhead device of claim 14, wherein said valve is comprised of a hole in said tubing, and a spring flap with an upstream portion attached to a ring within said tubing, and a downstream portion positioned adjacent said hole, wherein when water is turned on, said flap is moved to cover said hole, and when water is turned off, said flap is automatically moved away from said hole.